

3. On some Neuroptera Odonata (Dragonflies) collected by Mr. E. E. Green in Ceylon. By W. F. KIRBY, F.L.S., F.E.S., Assistant in Zoological Department, British Museum (Natural History), S. Kensington.

[Received March 17, 1891.]

(Plate XX.)

Among the insects from Ceylon which Mr. E. E. Green has lately presented to the British Museum are a few Dragonflies, representing 16 species, 3 of which appear to be new, while one or two of the others have not previously been recorded from the island. As they are nearly all carefully marked with dates and localities, I think it will be useful to enumerate them, though the small number of species represented renders it impossible to attempt any generalizations.

LIBELLULIDÆ.

LIBELLULINÆ.

RHYOTHEMIS, Hag.

1. RHYOTHEMIS MARCIA.

Libellula marcia, Drury, Ill. Ex. Ent. ii. pl. xlv. f. 3 (1773).

A common East-Indian species.

TRITHEMIS, Brauer.

2. TRITHEMIS TRIVIALIS.

Libellula trivialis, Ramb. Ins. Névr. p. 115 (1842).

Kandy (Aug. 1888).

Occurs in India and Ceylon.

3. TRITHEMIS YERBURII.

Trithemis yerburii, Kirb. Cat. Neur. Odon. p. 18. n. 5 (1890).

Pundaloya (April 1889).

In the British Museum from India, Ceylon, and Borneo.

De Selys considers this species to be the true *T. aurora*, Burm.

ORTHETRUM, Newm.

4. ORTHETRUM PRUINOSUM.

Libellula pruinosa, Burm. Handb. Ent. ii. p. 858. n. 63 (1839).

Pundaloya (Sept. and Oct. 1888).

A common species in the East Indies.

A specimen taken in January 1889 may be a variety of the female of this species, or may belong to *O. carnaticum*; it is tawny yellow, with two broad reddish-brown stripes on the sides of the thorax, the uppermost intersected by a black line close to its upper edge.

5. ORTHETRUM CARNATICUM. (Plate XX. fig. 1.)

Libellula carnatica, Fabr. Ent. Syst. Suppl. p. 284 (1798).

Pundaloya, Ceylon (Feb. 1889).

Not previously known from Ceylon; the British Museum has specimens from Nepal.

The insect, which I identify with the Fabrician species, is closely allied to *O. triangularis*, Selys; but De Selys refers Fabricius's description to *Trithemis cæsia*, Ramb.

AGRIONIDÆ.

AGRIONINÆ.

NEUROBASIS, Selys.

6. NEUROBASIS APICALIS, sp. n. (Plate XX. figs. 2, 2 a.)

Exp. nearly 3 inches.

Male. Bright green above; head with a short black streak in front of the ocelli; antennæ black, conspicuously testaceous beneath; labrum black, with the rim and a large spot on each side testaceous; labium testaceous, lined with black. Thorax with the sutures black in front and testaceous behind; under surface testaceous. Legs black. Wings iridescent-hyaline, front wings shining with magenta, and hind wings with coppery-green in the sunlight; tips of all the wings dusky. Upper anal appendages hairy, with a triangular tooth on the lower surface and 5 teeth on the upper.

Nawala-pittia, Ceylon.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Green only obtained one damaged specimen of this handsome species, which resembles an *Echo* in its markings, though its neuration clearly shows it to be a *Neurobasis*.

PSEUDOPHÆA, Kirb.

7. PSEUDOPHÆA SPLENDENS.

Euphæa splendens, Selys, Syn. Cal. p. 52 (1853).

Pundaloya (Sept. 1888).

Mr. Green obtained both sexes; the female is rarer in collections than the male.

MICROMERUS, Bamb.

8. MICROMERUS FINALIS.

Micromerus finalis, Selys, Bull. Acad. Belg. (2) xxvii. p. 665 (1869).

Nawala-pittia (Oct. 1889).

Originally described from Ceylon.

CENAGRIONINÆ.

PLATYSTICTA, Selys.

9. PLATYSTICTA GREENI, sp. n. (Plate XX. fig. 3, 3 a.)

Long. corp. 48 millim; exp. al. 62 millim.

Male. Pterostigma brown, the lower edge twice as long as the

oreadth, covering one or two cells ; some of the apical cells beyond divided ; nodal sector broken through the greater part of its length, rising from the vein descending from the nodus ; subnodal entire, rising separately a little before the other ; 21-26 postcubital nervures ; sectors of the arculus rising from a short stalk ; sometimes two basal postcostal nervures close together instead of one, in one or other of the wings.

Head bronzy black ; rhinarium, labrum, and base of mandibles white. Prothorax bronzy black above, shading into bronzy green at the extremity ; under surface testaceous, with an oblique white or very pale green stripe on the sides ; the extremity beneath and on the lower border of the same colour. Legs, except the tibiæ and tarsi, which are black, some spots between the wings above, and the base and under surface of the abdomen rufous ; the greater part of the three terminal segments of the abdomen with a pale mark above, which is probably blue during life. Upper appendages more than twice as long as the 10th segment, obtuse, and crossing inwards and downwards, with a strong tooth on the inner side near the base. Lower appendages about half as long, slender, the tips turned inwards at a right angle.

Belongs to the group of *P. hilaris*, Selys, but is apparently more like *P. maculata*, Selys, in general appearance, to judge from the description of that species.

Pundaloya (Aug. 1889).

DISPARONEURA, Selys.

10. DISPARONEURA CÆSIA.

Alloneura cæsia, Selys, Bull. Acad. Belg. (2) x. p. 460 (1860).

Pundaloya (Aug. 1889).

MICRONYMPHA, Kirb.

11. MICRONYMPHA AURORA.

Agrion (Ischnura) aurora, Brauer, Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, xv. p. 510 (1865).

Taken at Pundaloya.

A widely-distributed East-Indian and Australian species.

ARCHIBASIS, Kirb.

12. ARCHIBASIS CEYLONICA, sp. n. (Plate XX. fig. 4.)

Exp. al. 50 millim.

Head rufo-testaceous, paler beneath. Thorax tawny above, inclining to greenish on the sides ; beneath pale testaceous, as well as the legs ; the short spines, and a stripe on the femora above, black. Abdomen with the first two segments, the sides and under surface dull greenish brown ; second segment with a bronzy black stripe on the median line, expanded at the lower extremity, where there is a groove in the middle, but not quite reaching the end of the segment, which is marked with a narrow black transverse stripe.

A bronzy black stripe, showing slightly greenish in some lights, covers segments 3-6 above (terminal segments wanting). Wings hyaline, with 11 postcubital nervures; pterostigma pale yellow, very oblique and pointed at the ends, and covering less than one cell.

Kandy (August 1888).

Allied to *Stenobasis occipitalis*, Selys, from New Guinea; but in *A. ceylonica* the head is concolorous, and consequently there are no postocular spots, a character which I regard as purely artificial. *Archibasis* (*Stenobasis*, Selys) appears to differ from *Teinobasis* (*Telebasis*, p., Selys) in the position of the basal postcostal nervure. In *Archibasis* it is placed about halfway between the level of the two antecubital nervures, whereas in *Teinobasis* it is placed close to the level of the second.

13. LESTES ELATUS.

Lestes elata, Selys, Bull. Acad. Belg. xiii. p. 319 (1862).

Pundaloya.

14. LESTES GRACILIS (?).

Lestes gracilis, Selys, Bull. Acad. Belg. xxiii. p. 327 (1862).

A pair of *Lestes* in Mr. Green's collection from Pundaloya agree fairly well with De Selys's description of this species, but they present no trace of bluish colouring, and the male has only 9 postcubital nervures on the anterior wings; the female has 12. The genus *Lestes* is well represented in Ceylon; and I do not feel justified in describing Mr. Green's specimens as new in the absence of others of the same section from the island.

I have passed over two other Dragonflies in Mr. Green's collection, allied to *Agrionoptera* and *Cænagrion* respectively, pending the acquisition of a larger series.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XX.

- Fig. 1. *Orthetrum carnaticum*, Fabr., p. 204.
 2. *Neurobasis apicalis*, sp. n., neuriation, p. 204.
 2 a. ———, anal appendages.
 3. *Platysticta greeni*, sp. n., p. 204.
 3 a. ———, anal appendages.
 4. *Archibasis ceylonica*, sp. n., p. 205.

4. On some Antelopes collected in Somali-land by Mr. T. W. H. Clarke. By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

[Received March 17, 1891.]

(Plates XXI. & XXII.)

By the kindness of Messrs. Rowland Ward & Co., the well-known taxidermists of Piccadilly, I have been entrusted with the examination of the fine series of Antelope heads and horns recently collected in Somali-land by Mr. T. W. H. Clarke. These Antelopes prove to